Amendments to the Specification:

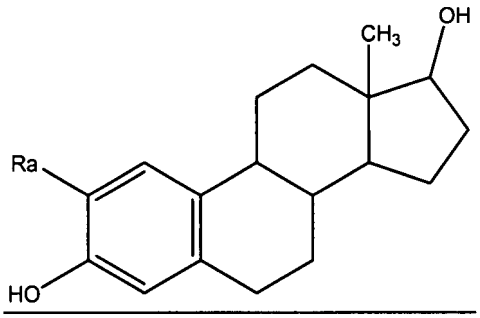
Please amend the specification as indicated below.

Page 1, line 5, please amend the title of the invention as indicated below:

METHOD FOR INHIBITING NEOVASCULARIZATION USING ESTROGENIC COMPOUNDS ~~AS ANTI-MITOTIC AGENTS~~

Page 18, lines 2-4, please amend the Abstract as indicated below:

A method of inhibiting neovascularization in a mammal comprises administering to the mammal a neovascularization-inhibiting amount of a compounds of the formula ~~disclosed~~



wherein, R_a is $-OR_1$ or $-OCOR_1$, wherein R_1 is H, or a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl group of up to 6 carbons.

Page 4, first paragraph, please amend this paragraph as indicated below.

Fig. 3 ~~depicts:~~ part I. depicts the chemical formulae of colchicine, 2-methoxyestradiol and combretastatin A-4, and part II. illustrates estradiol derivatives that comprise structural motifs found in ~~various derivatives comprising~~ colchicine ~~(A-c) or combretastatin A-4 (d) structural motifs as described below~~ wherein, panel a shows an estradiol derivative with the A ring expanded from six to seven carbons, panel b shows an estradiol derivative with the B ring expanded from six to seven carbons, panel c shows an estradiol

derivative with both the A and the B ring expanded from six to seven carbons, and panel d shows an estradiol derivative with a partial B ring.

Page 14, line 29-page 15, line 9, please amend the two paragraphs as indicated below.

Figure 2 illustrates that 2-methoxyestradiol inhibits colchicine binding to tubulin. Reaction conditions were described in the text, with each readtion mixture containing 1.0 μM tubulin, 5% (v/v) dimethyl sulfoxide, 5 μM [^{3}H[colchicine, and inhibitor at the indicated concentrations. Incubation was for 10 min at 37° C. Symbols as follows: 0, 2-methoxyestradiol; □, combretastatin A-4; □, dihydrocombreastatin A-4. Combretastatin A-4 and dihydrocombreastatin A-4 are compounds with anti-mitotic activity similar to colchicine.

~~Example 4:~~

Example 4:

Table 1 illustrates the inhibitory effects on tubulin polymerization in vitro exhibited by estradiol or estradiol derivatives, plant anti-mitotic compounds such as colchicine, combretastatin A-4 or other plant compounds. The method is given in Example 1.